



Weekly Ag Update

USDA/NASS
New Mexico Field Office

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Crop Weather Cattle on Feed Farm Labor

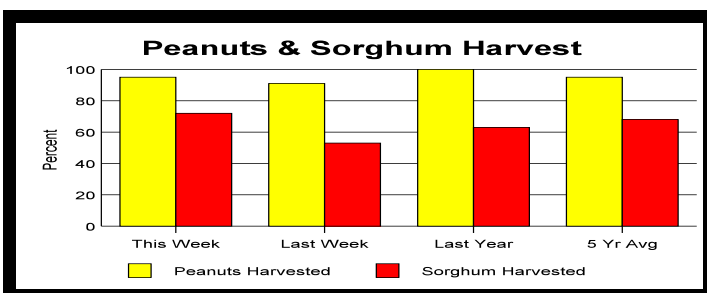
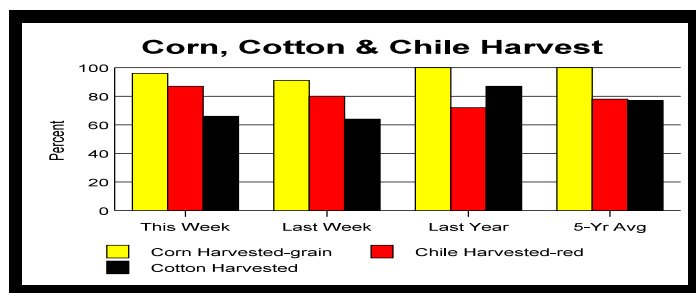
Available on the Internet: www.nass.usda.gov/nm , or by e-mail (1-800-530-8810 for information)

CROP SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 26, 2006

NEW MEXICO: There were 6.9 days suitable for field work. Topsoil moisture was 11% very short, 42% short, 45% adequate and 2% surplus. Wind damage was 10% light and 1% moderate. Freeze damage was reported as 17% light, 6% moderate and 9% severe. Hail damage was reported as 1% light and 1% moderate. Farmers spent the week harvesting various crops. Alfalfa was reported as 1% very poor, 7% poor, 21% fair, 38% good and 33% excellent, with 97% of the seventh cutting complete. Irrigated sorghum was reported as 85% harvested for grain. Dry sorghum was reported as 66% harvested for grain. Total sorghum was reported as 72% harvested for grain. Irrigated winter wheat condition was reported as mostly fair to good. Dry winter wheat condition was reported as mostly poor to good. Total winter wheat condition was reported as 18% poor, 42% fair and 40% good. Peanuts were reported as 95% harvested. Onion conditions were reported as 5% fair, 79% good and 16% excellent. Pecan conditions were reported as fair to excellent. Cotton was reported as 66% harvested. Red chile was reported as 87% harvested. Corn was reported as 96% harvested for grain. Cattle conditions were reported as 1% very poor, 3% poor, 16% fair, 72% good and 8% excellent. Sheep conditions were reported as 6% very poor, 11% poor, 16% fair, 44% good and 23% excellent. Range and pasture conditions were reported as 7% very poor, 8% poor, 30% fair, 41% good and 14% excellent. Ranchers are working, shipping and moving cattle. Some ranchers are beginning to supplement feed.

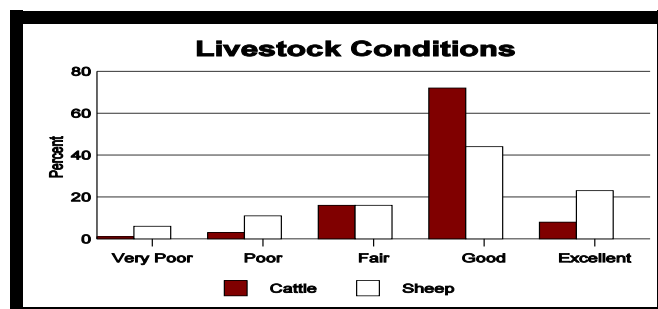
CROP PROGRESS PERCENTAGES WITH COMPARISONS

CROP PROGRESS		This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
CHILE	Harvested-red	87	80	72	78
CORN	Harvested-grain	96	91	100	100
COTTON	Harvested	66	64	87	77
PEANUTS	Harvested	95	91	100	95
SORGHUM (ALL)	Harvested	72	53	63	68



CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITION PERCENTAGES

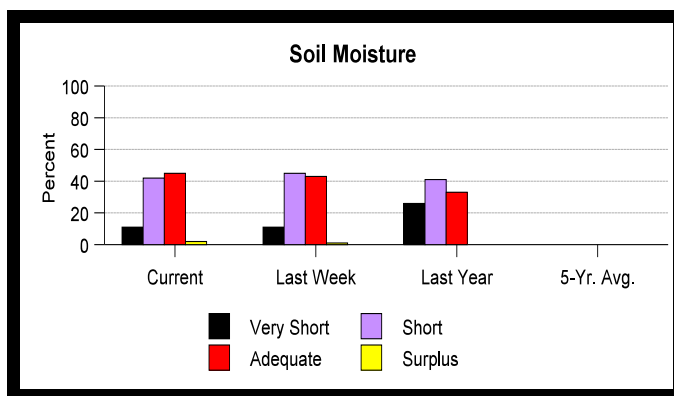
	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	1	7	21	38	33
Onions	---	---	5	79	16
Pecans	---	---	24	52	24
Wheat	---	18	42	40	---
Cattle	1	3	16	72	8
Sheep	6	11	16	44	23
Range/Pasture	7	8	30	41	14



SOIL MOISTURE PERCENTAGES

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Northwest	19	49	31	1
Northeast	19	48	30	3
Southwest	---	21	79	---
Southeast	---	44	53	3
State Current	11	42	45	2
State-Last Week	11	45	43	1
State-Last Year	26	41	33	---
State-5-Yr Avg.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

N/A - Not Available



WEATHER SUMMARY

New Mexico was dry the past week with temperatures generally a little above normal. The statewide average temperature was 2 degrees above normal. Precipitation was very light and confined to the northern mountains. Red River (.13") was the only spot that measured over a tenth of an inch of moisture.

NEW MEXICO WEATHER CONDITIONS - NOVEMBER 20 - 26, 2005

Station	Temperature			Precipitation				
	Mean	Maximum	Minimum	11/20 11/26	11/01 11/26	Normal Nov.	01/01 11/26	Normal Jan-Nov
Farmington	46.3	65	26	0.00	0.04	0.94	8.27	8.12
Gallup	42.4	67	19	0.00	0.01	0.95	12.83	11.91
Capulin	40.9	69	18	0.00	0.00	0.67	14.87	16.94
Chama	38.3	59	20	0.02	0.36	1.72	20.12	19.81
Johnson Ranch	39.6	64	18	0.00	0.00	0.69	11.40	10.85
Las Vegas	45.9	72	22	0.00	0.00	0.58	16.16	18.36
Los Alamos	43.2	59	27	0.00	0.03	1.02	12.85	17.64
Raton	42.9	71	21	0.00	0.00	0.61	12.98	16.22
Red River	33.9	58	15	0.13	0.32	1.18	20.87	19.33
Santa Fe	42.0	63	22	0.00	0.00	0.63	14.23	13.21
Clayton	49.6	76	28	0.00	0.00	0.52	13.89	14.80
Clovis	52.5	78	31	0.00	0.00	0.73	13.76	16.97
Roy	45.1	71	24	0.00	0.00	0.50	14.37	15.29
Tucumcari	51.6	78	25	0.00	0.00	0.51	15.29	13.90
Grants	40.1	66	16	0.00	0.02	0.58	11.77	10.14
Quemado	40.0	65	14	0.00	0.00	0.45	12.62	13.04
Albuquerque	48.4	66	32	0.00	0.00	0.43	11.54	8.38
Carrizozo	44.2	69	23	0.00	0.00	0.76	12.58	12.07
Socorro	46.7	68	25	0.00	0.00	0.47	13.67	8.95
Gran Quivera	45.8	67	26	0.00	0.00	0.91	17.50	14.92
Moriarty	39.4	66	17	0.00	0.00	0.40	13.73	12.17
Ruidoso	42.6	65	20	0.00	0.00	0.88	31.02	19.72
Carlsbad	53.4	79	31	0.00	0.00	0.59	12.67	12.38
Roswell	49.6	78	27	0.00	0.00	0.55	15.38	12.38
Tatum	49.9	77	27	0.00	0.00	0.55	19.85	15.57
Alamogordo	55.6	70	39	0.00	0.00	0.71	15.97	11.92
Animas	54.2	73	33	0.00	0.00	0.71	12.59	10.62
Deming	50.7	74	26	0.00	0.00	0.64	12.37	9.73
Las Cruces	52.7	74	33	0.00	0.00	0.53	13.85	8.72
T or C	51.1	69	32	0.00	0.00	0.60	11.06	9.22

(T) Trace (-) No Report (*) Correction

All reports based on preliminary data. Precipitation data corrected monthly from official observation forms.

CATTLE ON FEED

NEW MEXICO: Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in New Mexico feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 141,000 on November 1. This compares to 143,000 head on October 1, 2006. Placements decreased by 7,000 head from September 2006 to a total of 14,000 head in October. Marketings were down by 3,000 head to 13,000. Other disappearance decreased by 1,000 head to a total of 3,000.

UNITED STATES: Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 12.0 million head on November 1, 2006. Placements in feedlots during October totaled 2.43 million, 13 percent below 2005 and 10 percent below 2004. Net placements were 2.34 million head. Marketings of fed cattle during October totaled 1.77 million, 2 percent above 2005 but 2 percent below 2004. Other disappearance totaled 81,000 during October, 40 percent above 2005 and 23 percent above 2004.

Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots ^{1/}

	Number on Feed			Placed			Marketed			Other Disappearance ^{2/}		
	11/1/05	10/1/06	11/1/06	DURING								
				10/05	9/06	10/06	10/05	9/06	10/06	10/05	9/06	10/06
AZ	323	336	342	33	28	34	27	26	27	1	2	1
CA	545	525	530	64	72	71	50	64	62	4	3	4
CO	1,030	1,060	1,120	285	*240	210	150	*135	140	5	5	10
ID	290	265	285	76	72	71	55	41	50	1	1	1
IA	475	460	490	131	81	109	65	73	78	1	3	1
KS	2,410	2,450	2,550	580	500	520	400	420	395	20	20	25
NE	2,280	2,220	2,440	660	500	560	310	320	330	10	10	10
NM	141	143	141	22	21	14	16	16	13	1	4	3
OK	360	355	360	79	71	65	53	59	58	1	2	2
SD	161	170	190	68	50	64	35	34	43	2	1	1
TX	2,970	2,930	2,990	670	495	590	520	510	510	10	15	20
WA	163	171	181	34	37	34	23	23	23	1	1	1
Oth Sts	325	300	340	86	60	83	35	39	41	1	1	2
US	11,473	11,385	11,959	2,788	*2,227	2,425	1,739	*1,760	1,770	58	68	81

^{1/} Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better. ^{2/} Includes death losses, movement from feedlots to pastures, and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

QUARTERLY FARM LABOR

NEW MEXICO-ARIZONA: There were 21,000 hired workers on farms and ranches in New Mexico and Arizona during the week of October 8-14, 2006, down 16 percent from a year ago. Average hours worked by all hired workers increased to 45.1 hours a week compared to 44.8 hours last year. Wage rates for field workers were up from the previous year at \$7.56 an hour, an increase of 29 cents. Livestock worker wages were down slightly to \$8.86, compared to \$8.87 an hour in October 2005. Overall, average wage rates for all hired agricultural workers increased to \$8.50 an hour.

UNITED STATES: There were 1,077,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of October 8-14, 2006, down 5 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 797,000 workers were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 280,000 workers. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$9.95 per hour during the October 2006 reference week, up 34 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$9.25 per hour, up 35 cents from last October, while livestock workers earned \$9.41 per hour compared with \$9.15 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$9.29 per hour, was up 33 cents from last year.

**Workers on Farms, Hours worked Per Week, and Wage Rates for All Hired Workers,
 Selected Regions and U.S., October 2005-2006 ^{1/}**

	Mountain II ^{2/}		Mountain III ^{3/}		Southern Plains ^{4/}		United States ^{5/}	
	Oct 9-15 2005	Oct 8-14 2006	Oct 9-15 2005	Oct 8-14 2006	Oct 9-15 2005	Oct 8-14 2006	Oct 9-15 2005	Oct 8-14 2006
Workers on Farms	-----Thousands-----							
All Hired Workers	22	19	25	21	64	49	842	797
Hours Worked	-----Hours Per Week-----							
All Hired Workers	45.9	38.7	44.8	45.1	39.1	39.7	221	41.6
Wages By Work	-----Dollars Per Hour-----							
Field	7.94	8.86	7.27	7.56	7.60	8.14	8.90	9.25
Livestock	8.39	9.32	8.87	8.86	7.84	10.09	9.15	9.41
Field & Livestock	8.14	9.05	7.67	8.05	7.68	9.02	8.96	9.29
All Workers	8.75	9.80	8.28	8.50	8.38	9.60	9.61	9.95

^{1/} Excludes agricultural service workers. ^{2/} Mountain Region II consists of CO, NV & UT. ^{3/} Mountain Region III consists of

^{4/} Southern Plains region consists of OK & TX. ^{5/} Excludes AK.